

MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MARYLAND TOKEN AND MEDAL SOCIETY, INC.

VOL. X NO. 3 WHOLE NO. 41 FALL 1989

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Meetings are held at various coin shows and conventions throughout the year. Ses information on future meetings elsewhere in this issue.

MEHBERSHIP

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DUES: Dues for Regular, Junior and Organizational membership is \$5.00 per year 987 SHERWOOD FOREST RD.
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

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MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor. Opinions expressed by the authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of MD TAMS, its Editor or its Officers. MD TAMS JOURNAL reserves the right to edit or reject any copy.

SOCIETY BUSINESS
Correspondence pertaining to the business affairs of MD TAMS, including membership, change of address, etc., should be addressed to the Secretary, P. O. Box 3273, Baltimore, Maryland 21228-0273.

THE MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL is produced by the Maryland Tokens and Medals Society to help stimulate and maintain interest in the collecting of medals, tokens and related exonumia from the State of Maryland and other areas. It is strictly a non-profit organization. The Journal is published quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

RESTRICTIONS

MD TAMS does not guarantee advertising, but accepts copy in good faith. All advertising should be addressed to the Editor. Advertising copy shall be restricted to tokens, medals and other exonumia as well as allied numismatic material, publications and accessories related thereto. All advertisers must supply their own cuts and/or art work.

RATES: SIZE	1 ISSUE	4 ISSUES
1 page ½ page ¼ page 1/8 page	\$ 16.00 \$ 12.00 \$ 8.00 \$ 4.00	\$ 56.00 \$ 42.00 \$ 28.00 \$ 14.00



See Classified Ad section for this information.

DEADLINES

ISSUE	DEADLINES	ISSUE DATE
Spring Summer Fall Winter	February 15th May 15th August 15th November 15th	March 21st June 21st September 21st December 21st



WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1989

WHERE: MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

MANA SHOW....

HOWARD JOHNSON FLAZA HOTEL

8500 ANNAPOLIS ROAD NEW CARROLITON, MD

TIME: 12 NOON - 3:00P.M.

ROOM: CHECK AT THE DESK....

The President's Message

Bil Miller



As summer draws to a close I find it hard to say anything new or different that hasn't been said before. our organization is in great shape with an active membership. our only shortcoming is our back debt, which is gradually being paid off. We are to the point that if half of our members sold one book we would be free and clear. At the risk of beating a dead horse... SELL A BOOK TODAY!

Our next meeting will be at New Carrollton in conjunction with the M.A.N.A. show on October 21. Hopefully, our winter meeting will be held in Annapolis at the State House. More to follow later.

Hope everyone had a great summer and hope to see you on the 21st....

Schenkman receives TAMS highest award

David E. Schenkman received the Token and Medal Society's highest literary award — the Franklin Mint Segel Award — at the TAMS banquet Aug. 10 during the American Numismatic Association's 98th Anniversary Convention in Pittsburgh.

It was the fourth time Schenkman has won the top honor for articles published in the TAMS Journal. Schenkman's winning entry was for "Railroad Cord Wood Tokens."

DAVID SCHENKMAN left, receives the Token and Medal Society's highest literary award from TAMS President H. Joaeph Levine.



Coin World

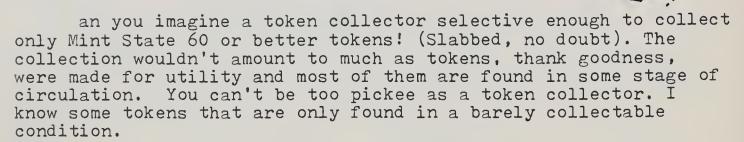
911 VANDEMARK ROAD SIDNEY, OHIO 45365

From The Editor

wing

TOKEN GRADING ...

TO BE OR NOT TO BE ...!



Now some collectors would find tokens below the dignity of their cabinets. To me the circulated condition of a token.. as well as a coin... is part of its facination. I want a coin or token which was fondled by the citizens of the society in which it was circulated... a numismatic relic of the past... a part of history.

I appreciate the aesthetics of numismatics, but the looks of a circulated coin or token really turns me on. Thank goodness, token collectors don't have to be concerned in the grading wars which prevail with, so much bitterness, in the numismatics world. In the old days (pre-1980's) a token was priced on its scarcity and its demand and very little attention was placed on its condition.

Condition is more important today, but in our world of exonumia we are lucky to find many of our Maryland tokens in anything but "barely collectable" condition. I have noticed of late, that some dealers are now listing tokens with numerical gradings. The high grade tokens are commanding prices far beyond their normal worth! I hope this does not mean that grading is about to assend upon our exonumia world.

If it does though.. I'm prepared! I have devised a grading system for Pickers' Checks which I recommend for all tokens. I first considered a numerical system with grades ranging from zero to 100,, 100 being perfect, but when I tried it out on some tokens I found I had trouble with consistency. I graded one token three different times with ratings of 78, 62 and 46... so I decided I couldn't distinquish between a 75, 76 or 77 or 78, 62 and 46... so I abandoned this unreasonable system. After much agonizing I zerored in on the following system:

> ABSOLUTELY PERFECT - AP: No visible flaws using a 10 powered scope. No marks, scratches, fingerprints, or corrosion. I am still searching for an AP token.

ALMOST ABSOLUTELY PERFECT - AAP : No flaws noticeable with the naked eye. Flaws detectable with a 10 powered scope.

PERFECT - P : Limit looking at the token for 5 seconds at a distance of two feet. If you can't see any flaws then the token is at least P. This grade is often referred to "The Big P"

- ABOUT PERFECT AbP : Not more than two flaws noticeable with the naked eye at a distance of two feet.
- ALMOST ABOUT PERFECT AAbP : More than two, but less than five flaws visible at two feet. Only one of which is visible at a distance of three feet.
- REALLY VERY NICE RVN : One or more, but not more than four noticeable at three feet. Some sign of slight wear noticeable at two feet, but not observeable at three feet.
- VERY NICE VN : Observeable wear at three feet with no more than five noticeable flaws.
- ABOUT VERY NICE AbVN : Observeable wear at three feet with more than five noticeable flaws.
- NICE -N: Even wear noticeable at four feet with two or less observeable flaws, limiting your obversation to no more than ten seconds.
- ABOUT NICE AbN : Even wear noticeable at four feet with more than two, but less than five observeable flaws.
- ALMOST ABOUT NICE AAbN : Even wear noticeable at five feet with no more than five observeable flaws.
- SO-SO PLUS SS+ : Considerable wear noticeable at five feet with zero to four observeable flaws.
- SO-SO SS: Considerable wear noticeable at five feet with five or more flaws. All features of the token still recognizable.
- ABOUT SO-SO AbSS : Wear makes features barely observeable. Token may have many flaws.
- BARELY COLLECTABLE BC : Looks like a token, but you're not sure. Some features observeable to indicate its identity. Usually the victim of abuse with major flaws. Often found in coin club auctions.
- AWFUL Awf : Mutilated or corroded to the point of anonymity or worn to the extent that only one side reveals evidence of what it is or used to be. Major flaws.
- GOD AWFUL GAwf : Smashed, mutilated, runover by a train or corroded on both sides so badly that its true identity is known only to God. Usually uncollectable, but often avaiable at swap sessions.

(least you think this is the end, please turn the page)

So there you have it - If you must grade your tokens I recommend this system to avoid the controversy that numismatists have created with their coins. To use this system you need only a tape measure, corrective lense to give you 20-20 vision, a ten powered scope only if you think you have any Absolutely Perfect (AP) tokens and a stop watch to time your glances.

Now for the real test... try grading some of your tokens using this system...AP, AAP, P, AbP, AAbP, RVN, VN, AbVN, N, AbN, AAbN, SS+, SS, AbSS, BC, Awf, GAwf....! This could open a whole new world for you. You could simplify this system by equating it to a numerical scale of zero thru 16 with 16 being AP and zero being GAwf... but then again that might be even more confusing and get all mixed up with some of the existing coin grading systems. Not only that, but some of you might get the idea that I'm serious about grading tokens... please, fellow exonumists, let your tokens be what they are... collect them as relics of history and let's not inject the insanity of grading....

THE EVENING SUN THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1988

Another new booklet is the Baltimore Streetcar Museum's "Baltimore and Streetcars 1926," at \$8.95. It's a series of annotated reproductions of newspaper ads drawn by Willem Wirtz for the old United Railways and Electric Co. Its 40 pages contain handsome period ads for the trolley system, which was then facing serious competition from the auto. There are fine, strong sketches of Hampden and Guilford Street scenes, as well as Bay Shore and Gwynn Oak parks, downtown, Towson and North Avenue. This booklet will make you sick at the thought of how Baltimore lost its efficient and beautiful streetcar network.

IN REMEMBRANCE

BILL SWAGLER



The Maryland numismatic world will never be the same. We were saddened and shocked to hear of the death of Bill Swagler on Sunday, August 20, 1989. I had spent some time with Bill in Fittsburgh at the ANA's 98th Annual Convention. He appeared in good health and was his usual jovial, good natured self. I turned over to Bill the ANA slide shows as Bill was going to circulate the programs throughout the various coin clubs in the Baltimore area. He was always willing to get involved and was proud to serve as the ANA District Representative for the Baltimore area.

Bill voluteered to take over the very important and quite responsible job of treasurer for the Maryland State Numismatic Association in 1983 when I was president and in desperate need of someone to handle the finances. Handle the finances he did! In superb fashion... and has ever since. In 1985 he volunteered to tackle the job as chairman of finances for the Baltimore ANA. Another superb job!

A couple years ago Bill voluteered to be the ANA District Representative for the Baltimore area. A year later he still had not received his name badge, so at the Cincinnati ANA last year, I told ANA officials that Bill had not yet received his name badge and his calling cards.

"We'll get them off right away," I was told. In Pittsburg this year, I was surprised to find out that Bill still had not received his official credentials. Again I talked to ANA officials,

"They're on my desk, the badge, name cards and stationary...
I'll send them off as soon as I get back to Colorado."
I don't know if Bill ever received his ANA badge and for that I am very sorry. He took great pride in serving the ANA and he served the association well. His quite, gentlemanly manner, endeared him to all who knew him.

Bill will be dearly missed... he was our Numismatist of the Year... he chaired last years MSNA convention and was going to chair next years... "They keep you as chairman, until you get it right" I kidded him in Pittsburg. He was always involved. No job was too small or too large... get programs, bring the wine and cheese for the MSNA Fall Seminar while keeping the accounts for MSNA. I consider myself a richer person having known Bill. He was a good friend, a faithful servant of Maryland numismatics. You rarely saw Bill behind the microphone or on center stage. He preferred to stay behind the scenes, but he was always there. Those who worked with Bill loved him. He leaves a large void which will be hard to fill. If only we could learn to give our Thanks before it is too late... Thank you Bill... Thanks for your numismatic devotions and for the unselfish manner which characterized your life... your gift to us was to know you.. We shall miss you and never forget you....

WRM

MARYLAND encased coins





by Bill Miller

So far the list of encased coins from Maryland has reached 78. A quick survey has revealed some interesting facts. Of course, you would expect Baltimore City to have the most listings (43), but would you believe that Alleghany County would be second (4)? Also, wheat cents are by far the most common coin used with over 50 examples, followed by Memorial cents (13), Indian cents (13) and Jefferson nickels (2). Most of the encased coins are in round or horseshoe encasements, but there are also other shapes, including: pot, fob, bell, and wishbone!

There are some other interesting facts to note. Maryland has only one reported encased good/for; only two goldine encased coins have been reported, as well as only one plastic. Obviously there are more unreported examples out there! Please help by sending in descriptions of your encased coins to be included in this list. Next time we will list a county/city census of all reported encased coins.

> Only one new listing to report: MD EC-79 Compliments of the Home Fertilizer obv: (1901 1¢)/ Chemical Works/ Baltimore, MD. Good Luck/(1901 1¢)/Keep Me/And Prosper. Round, Alum., 35mm.

A.VERNON TAYLOR LITERARY AWARDS

1988

Greg Ruby, Chairman of the Literary Awards committee, announced the the following awards for literary achievements appearing in the 1988 issues of the MD TAMS JOURNAL:

INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES:

1st Place: EDGAR HEYL for

"Maryland Business Firm's Anniversary Medals"

2nd Place: MILLARD HAJEK for

"USF & G Dining Room Token Revisited"

3rd Place: BILL MILLER for "Armour's of Ridgely"

CONTINUING SERIES:

1st Place: MILLARD HAJEK for

"Token Potpourri"

2nd Place: WILL MUMFORD for

"Checken fer Pickers"

3rd Place: CURTIS JUDGE for

"Book Review"

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners and THANKS to all who contributed to the 1988 MD TAMS JOURNAL....



GREG RUBY and:

- MILLARD HAJEK

WILL MUMFORD -

CURTIS JUDGE







TOKEN POTPOURRI

BY MILLARD HAJEK LM#1

MD TAMS ANNUAL "GIVE-AWAYS"

MD TAMS celebrated its 10th year anniversary in April, 1989. One of the traditions established by the Society's founding fathers was to commemorate each annual meeting by presenting a souvenir "GIVE-AWAY" to each member in attendance at the annual meeting and to the total membership along with the MD TAMS Journal. This concept has proven to be very popular with the members and the anticipation of what will be this years give-away has always stirred excitement at the meeting. Efforts to vary the give-away while maintaining a reasonable budget has proven to be the most serious challenge to the committee. But they have arisen to the occassion and provided us with great souvenirs!!!

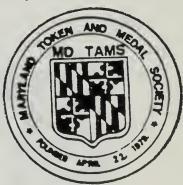
Many of our newer members may or may not be aware of this practice or the previous give-aways distributed. So, this article attempts to document this tradition.

MD TAMS First Annual Meeting Souvenir was a wooden nickel donated by Millard Hajek and Vernon Taylor. It was hoped by these gentlemen that a precedent would be established and that MD TAMS would issue an exonumia piece commemorating each annual meeting in the future. The wooden nickel was designed by Millard Hajek with 500 pieces issued in blue ink.





2nd ANNUAL MEETING **TOWSON CENTER** APRIL 11, 1981 MILLARD HAJEK **PRESIDENT**



For our Second Annual Meeting Commemorative piece. a plastic 42mm token was commissioned. A quantity of 250 were made by Armor Medallions. The token was made in two varieties, 50 pieces black on yellow for presentation to attendees at the annual meeting and 200 pieces, black on white for presentation to all members of the Society distributed via the MD TAMS Journal.

Our Third Annual Meeting Commemorative piece was an elongated coin produced by Frank Brazzell of Terre Haute, IN. A quantity of 50 elongated dimes were made for presentation to attendees at the annual meeting and 250 elongated cents. 1982 Philadelphia mint, for presentation to all members of the Society distributed with the MD TAMS Journal. In addition, 3 elongated cents in the form of key rings were made and auctioned off at the annual meeting.





MD TAMS continued the practice of issuing a commemoratie exonumia item for its Fourth Annual Meeting. A brass 21½mm scalloped Anne Arundel County pickers check with the initials H.C.B. incused (H.C. Broch) was counterstamped on the reverse with */ MD TAMS /1983. A quantity of 60 were made and distributed at the annual meeting. Mailed with the MD TAMS Journal to each member was a brass 20½mm round Anne Arundel County pickers check with the initials J.C.S./5 (Joshia Cromwell Stewart) incused and similarly counterstamped on the reverse with */ MD TAMS/ 1983. A total of 125 pieces were struck. Counterstamping was provided by Millard Hajek.

A 1984 encased cent was presented to all members and guests in attendance at the MD TAMS Fifth Annual Meeting. In addition, all members of the Society received the same specimen of the encased coin with the MD TAMS Journal. A quantity of 1000 encased cents were produced by the Newton Manufacturing Company of Newton, Iowa.









The Sixth Annual Meeting commemorative token was a wooden nickel, blue in color, distributed at the annual meeting and to all members with the MD TAMS Journal.

The MD TAMS 1986 Seventh Annual Meeting annual commemorative token was a cast pewter, 21mm uniface specimen designed and cast by George Cuhaj. For those attending the annual meeting the legend reads MD TAMS / '86(outline of Maryland) / 4.19. All members received a specimen with the MD TAMS Journal which read MD TAMS/ '86 (outline of Maryland). A total of 50 specimens were cast for the annual meeting and 150 of the regular issue.





My research was relatively simple in determining the Annual Meeting commemorative give-away until I reached the 1987 8th give-away. My collection revealed that the Annual Meeting souvenir for 1987 was an elongated cent donated and presented by Russ Sears commemorating his term as president of MD TAMS. If someone can confirm that another souvenir piece was issued by MD TAMS for 1987, please let me know and I'll make sure it gets proper documentation in the MD TAMS Journal.







The 9th Annual Meeting commemorative issue was another elongated coin. The design featured a token on the left with the inscription GOOD FOR / FUN / COLLECTING and to the right MARYLAND / TAIS / ANNUAL / MEETING / APRIL 16, 1988. Members at the annual meeting received the design rolled on a Salisbury transportation token (Atwood #Salisbury 840A) while all members received an elongated cent with the MD TAMS Journal. A total of 50 elongates rolled on the transportation token were issued and 250 eloggated cents were made. George Cuhaj was the Committee Chairman who provided this novel issue.

MD TAMS 10th Anniversary celebration souvenir was another elongated issue. Designed by Millard Hajek, the design is */ MD TAMS/ SALUTES/ TOKENEERS/ ON OUR/ caricature of a Sherlock Holmes type detective facing left with a magnifying glass 10TH within glass YEAR/ 1979/ 1989 below and to the left. A total of 50elongates were rolled on nickels for distribution to members attending the annual meeting. All other members received an elongated cent with the MD TAMS Journal. A total of 250 cents were issued.

I wonder what kind of commemorative souvenir give-away the committee has in store for us in 1990? Only time will tell!!

This is a friendly reminder to all committee members and to you as members who issue some type of exonumia piece. Please take the time to write up a small article about your issue giving some of the pertinent details about your piece. That is one of the main purposes of the MD TAMS Journal. Let's not forget! Document your issue for others to read about in the MD TAMS Journal!!!





BOOK REVIEWS
By Curtis H. Judge



IOWA MERCHANT TRADE TOKEN TOWN RARITY LIST 2nd ed.
NEBRASKA MERCHANT TRADE TOKEN TOWN/PLACE RARITY LISTING 4th ed.

By GEORGE HOSEK

Two token reference works have recently been published by Mr. George Hosek of Omaha, Nebraska. These works cover over four years effort compiling rarity data from multiple collections of Iowa and Nebraska merchant trade tokens. The Nebraska work covers 49 different collections totalling 63,292 tokens, while the Iowa covers 55 collections totalling 45,977 tokens.

Each booklet is broken down into a cross reference form by town and by collection listing the number of separate issues for each town. Iowa shows over 1000 towns with Davenport the most prolific having 1716 entries. Nebraska lists over 700 towns with Omaha's count of 4481 being by far the largest. Hosek further breaks down his rarity guide into listings of several other categories. IE: Brunswick Balke Collender, CCC camp tokens, saloon, brewery, variously spelled towns, multiple town tokens and military tokens.

Both works are aimed at the specialty Nebraska and Iowa merchant token collector. They will be of great help in accessing the rarity and value of an individuals collection. They will also be of value to the category collector who seeks rarity data on state pieces in his collections.

The books are cardboard bound in the 8 1/2" X 11" format. Numerous rubbings are included. Reproduction is by photocopy method; however, the clarity and detail are excellent. Nebraska is 32 pages in length and sells for \$11.00 postpaid. Iowa is 50 pages in length and sells for \$8.50 postpaid. Interested collectors should contact the author direct at 7411 Idledale Lane Omaha, Nebraska. 68112-2805 TEL 402-455-1905









ne eyes have now seen the glory of the commen of the Pickers to the Anne Arundel Farms. With the report of an existing Pickers' Shanty several of us from the Ann Arrundell County Historical Society paid our respects to the only known remnant of its kind.

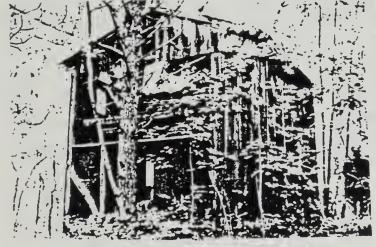
Situated on the old Calvert farm off Back Creek in Pasadena the shanty still stands amongst a wooded forest of small oak and poplar trees about a quarter mile from the old farm house which is still occupied.

As we apprroached the shanty I will never forget the feelings I experienced as I gazed upon a real shanty for the first time in my life. It was like finding a dinosaur still alive. It looked just like some of the photos I have seen only a bit smaller. It had two stories with a staircase inside in a corner. Part of the roof was caved in but the main structure looked secure. I cautiously went inside. There was a lot of debre. Jim Calvert, who grew up on the farm told me he remembered the shanty as a kid, but it was used as a storage shed then. The days of the pickers was over by the early 30's when he was a young lad.

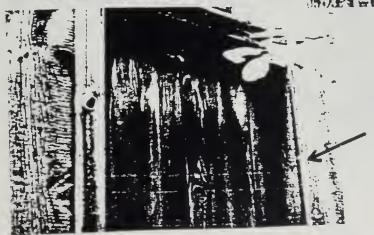
I made myself up the stairs... they were solid, but the upper floor looked a little shaky so I stopped short of going all the way up. It was easy for me to visualize the Polish workers all huddled up on the floor where they slept during the picking season.

The old Calvert farm has been purchased by some developers and before too long they plan to move the bulldozers in and clear the land of all buildings and trees for a residential development. The shanty and a barn have been offered to the Historical Society. All we have to do is have them moved to our head-quarters at the Benson-Hammond House near BWI Airport. But, there are two catches... The Maryland Historical Trust must give the Society permission to have any buildings moved onto the Benson-Hammond property and if we get permission, where do we come up with the cash to have the shanty moved and restored? We could propably raise the cash from donations, but the Historical Trust gives us little hope of granting permission.

Regardless, the AACo. Historical Society is determined to save the buildings and have devised long range plans to establish a farm museum on the Benson-Hammond property dedicated to the old truck farmers and pickers who dominated the Anne Arundel County culture and economy for over 100 years. The shanty would be restored from the photos taken in 1909 by Lewis Hines and the Pickers' story with the checks would find a final resting place to be preserved for all history.







THE LAST OF THE SHANTIES

Left: Doorway with pickers

initials.

BALTIMORE DOG TAGS

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

By RUSS SEARS

Our collection of Baltimore exonumia includes a rarun of Baltimore City dog tags starting in 1898 and ending in the 1980's. Additionally we have 1896, 1893, 1892 and an 1889... one hundred years old. I've been very happy with having such an old tag. No one seems to know when Baltimore started issuing dog tags, but to the best of my knowledge, the 1889 is the oldest known, til recently!

It was the oldest until our June 24 trip to the New Jersey Exonumia Show. Thru the efforts of my wife Jane a and another MD TAMS friend, we now have an 1879 tag. It includes the normal designation and date on the obverse (see illustration). The reverse, also incuse reads J.F.W. Dorman/Baltimore.

This find not only adds a new piece to the collection, but also proves what I've been saying for years. That is, to look, look, look and then look more! If you don't seek, you won't find...





MD TAMS CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified advertising, up to a maximum of 25 words, are free to all members. Only one free ad may be submitted by each member per issue. All free ads must be re-submitted each issue. No "run until further notice" ads allowed. Ads larger than 25 words are accepted, provided the additional words are remitted for at the rate of 8¢ per word per insertion.

Hon-member advertising will be accepted at the rate of 8¢ per word, subject to the advertising restrictions listed above.

Word count: Name and address will count as five words. All other words and abbreviations, figure combinations and initials count as one word each.

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21204, (301) 825-1234 x. 2265.
Send TAMS # receive free gift!

WANTED: MILITARY TOKENS AND COLLECT-ABLES. Will buy or trade tokens for Also want Virginia, DC and MD. tokens. Jim Shipley, 8110 Hatteras Lane, Springfield, VA 22151

WANTED DEPARTMENT STORE CHARGE TOKENS, Charge plates, paper & expired charge cards, old celluloin charge cards, Buy or trade. Darryl T. Weiss, 12783 Santa Ana Pl., Chino, CA 91710

WANTED - PENNA. TOKENS AND ADVERTISING mirrors, George Washington storecards, John Wanamaker collectables and old charge coins. Thanks. George Ganter, 580 E. St., Andrews Dr., Media, PA 19063-5804

COME VISIT BERLIN'S MANY ANTIQUE SHOPS including "Something Different". We stock thousands of tokens, picker tickets and coins. M.E. Lang, P.O.Box 128, Berlin, MD 21811

SEEKING RECTANGULAR CARDBOARD/PAPER "good for" ride, toll, passage, tour, discount, bath, milk, meal, gate check, door check. Dan Benice, Box 10068, Rockville, MD 20850

PICKER, PLUCKER, PACKER, CANNING TOKENS. New collector, books, articles, pre-1965 elongates, your lottery tickets for mine. Thanx; Gary Glise, 82 Garfield St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611-2405

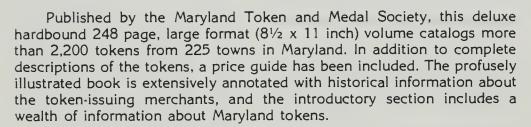
SEND LARGE SASE (45¢ postage) for fixed price list of picker checks & tokens. J.M. Boswell, P.O.Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054

WANTED: NEW JERSEY TOKENS. Will trade for or buy. Have some good Maryland tokens to trade. Bill Miller, Box 246, Denton, MD 21629



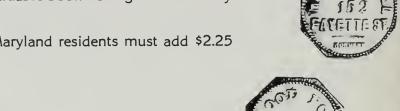
MARYLAND MERCHANT TOKENS

by DAVID E. SCHENKMAN



MARYLAND MERCHANT TOKENS will surely become the standard reference work on the subject. This invaluable book belongs in the library of every serious token collector.

Price \$45.00 per copy, postpaid. Maryland residents must add \$2.25 state sales tax.









ORDER FORM

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VOL. X

No. 3

WHOLE NO. 41

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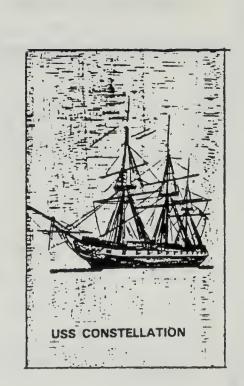
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